

RED LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
Board of Manager's Minutes  
August 27, 2009

Present were: Managers Orville Knott, LeRoy Ose, Dale M. Nelson, Kelly Nordlund, and Lee Coe. Absent: Gene Tiedemann and Jim Votava. Staff Present: Myron Jesme and Tammy Audette and Legal Counsel Delray Sparby.

The Board reviewed the agenda. A motion was made by Nordlund, seconded by Knott, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Coe, and passed unanimously that the Board dispense reading of the August 13, 2009 minutes and approve them with corrections.

The Board reviewed the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated August 26, 2009. A motion was made by Coe, seconded by Nordlund, and passed by unanimous vote that the Board approve the Financial Report and Investment Summary dated August 26, 2009. Administrator Jesme stated that staff will solicit quotes for two maturing CD's.

Administrator Jesme stated that the petition was received to clean Branch 1 of County Ditch 53, also known as RLWD Ditch 12, Project No. 169.

The Board reviewed the 2010 Levy Resolution from the RRWMB. Administrator Jesme stated that the RRWMB is levying the maximum allowable by Minnesota State Statute.

Administrator Jesme presented three quotes from dealerships for the purchase of a new vehicle. Motion by Knott, seconded by Coe, to approve the purchase of a 2010 F150 from Thief River Ford in the amount of \$18,694 which includes the trade-in of a 2003 Ford. Motion carried.

Administrator Jesme discussed the grant approved by FEMA which objectives are to develop a Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for Polk County and parts of Red Lake and Pennington County. Jesme indicated that there are two grants, one that will address Polk County and a smaller grant that will be used for Red Lake and Pennington County. The FEMA grant will be funded through the MnDNR with the District being the Local Unit of Government. Jesme hopes to hold a meeting with the MnDNR representative next week with the hopes that Request for Proposals (RFP) will be submitted to various engineering firms in the near future.

The Board reviewed permits for approval. A motion was made by Knott, seconded by Nordlund, to approve the following permits with conditions stated on the permits: No. 09087, Scott Baatz, Russia Township, Polk County; No. 09088, Thomas P Lewis, Hickory Township, Pennington County; No. 09089, Parnell Township, Polk County; No. 09090, John Bruihler, Cloverleaf Township, Pennington County; No. 09091, Gervais Township, Red Lake County; No. 09092, Jim Klemmetsen, Excel Township, Marshall County; No. 09093, Nature Conservancy, Tilden Township, Polk County; and No. 09095, Jasen Reitmeier, Fisher Township, Polk County; Motion carried.

Administrators Update:

- Three ring dikes will be constructed this fall. Funding for these dikes will be funded through the State of Minnesota, BWSR, RRWMB, RLWD and the landowner.
- Jesme attended the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council meeting on August 17, 2009 to help identify projects and funding within the next 25 years.
- Jesme was asked by the MnDNR to attend a Strategic Thinking Session held on August 26, 2009. The session was a small group discussion on the possibility of integrating the current Division of Waters and Ecological Resources. The current project schedule anticipates a draft programmatic and organizational structure to be developed in the fall of 2009 and then shared with stakeholder focus groups for input prior to finalization.
- Construction on the Farmes Pool/Elm Lake Structure began on August 25, 2009 beginning with the coffer dams and cutting of the township road for diversion of waters. Construction should start on the dam the later part of the week. Agassiz Pool will begin drawing down the pool in the hopes of having the pool drawn down for an October fly over for LiDAR mapping.
- Spoil on State Ditch 83 is being leveled which will allow better access to the ditch. Yearly maintenance should begin on this system as soon as the Agassiz Pool is drained down.
- Road maintenance to provide better drainage at the Seeger Dam site started on August 24<sup>th</sup> and will be completed later this week.
- Jesme and Manager Knott attended the August 18, 2009 RRWMB meeting. Jesme asked if the RRWMB wanted a Step 1 submittal for the Grand Marais Outlet Restoration Project. The RRWMB indicated that they viewed this project as part of the entire Project 60 which included the Euclid East and Brandt Impoundments and the Brandt Channel Restorations which is already covered. Included in the packet is the July 21, 2009 RRWMB minutes.
- Staff member Corey Hanson attended a meeting in regard to the reclassification of the Thief River Stream with the Thief River Falls City Council on August 17, 2009. Part of the meeting was to hear a presentation by the MPCA and MN Department of Health concerning the possibility of reclassifying the Thief River as a drinking water system. It is the hope of the MPCA that it will not only allow new money to be spent on creating better water quality for the Thief River but also give the City of Thief River Falls a cleaner initial water source. The City will hold another meeting on September 1, 2009 to determine how to handle this request.

Manager Nelson discussed the potential petition for Pennington County Ditch 1. Legal Counsel Sparby stated that he had reviewed a draft petition submitted to him by Attorney Michael Jorgenson. Discussion was held concerning 40 acre tracts within the City of Thief River Falls and how the petition would address all the parcels located in the city.

Discussion was held on the petition for Pennington County Ditch No. 75, RLWD Project 170. Administrator Jesme stated that Engineer Jeff Langan, Houston Engineering, Inc. is working on the hydrologic model for the project. Jesme and Langan recently met with the petitioners to discuss various options.

Discussion was held on mowing within Parnell Impoundment and spot cleaning in areas upstream of the lateral 2 weir as discussed by a landowner at the August 13, 2009 hearing. Administrator Jesme stated that the mowing has been completed and when the contractor installs the 2-48" culverts and cut channel, they will also complete the spot cleaning. The Board discussed the possibility of installing a walk bridge near the outlet of the west pool for better access to the structure. The Board instructed

Administrator Jesme to obtain quotes for the construction of a walk bridge and report back to the Board.

Manager Knott stated that funding was received by the Red Lake County SWCD for the repair of the washout on property owned by Mike Knott along the Red Lake River, east of Red Lake Falls along Hwy. 32. Manager Knott stated that funding was acquired from the Minnesota Recovery Grant and that RLWD Erosion Control Funds may be requested for the Mike Knott site or for another potential site in Red Lake County.

Motion by Ose, seconded by Knott, with motion carried to adjourn the meeting.



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Orville Knott, Secretary